

Please amend page 71, lines 3-18 as follows:

Abstract

38 An automated immunostaining apparatus having a reagent application zone and a reagent supply zone. The apparatus has a carousel slide support supporting a plurality of slide supports thereon, and drive engaging the carousel slide support for consecutively positioning each of a plurality of slide supports in the reagent application zone. The apparatus also has a carousel reagent support having a plurality of reagent container supports thereon, and drive engaging the carousel for rotating the carousel and positioning a preselected reagent container support in the reagent supply zone. The apparatus also has a reagent delivery actuator positioned for engaging a reagent container positioned on a container support in the reagent delivery zone and initiating reagent delivery from the reagent container to a slide supported on a slide support in the reagent receiving zone.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims ~~74~~, ~~75~~, ~~78~~, ~~79~~, ~~88~~, ~~92~~, ~~93~~, and ~~95-97~~. Please amend claims ~~72~~, ~~73~~, ~~76~~, ~~80-87~~, ~~94~~ and ~~98~~ as follows:

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Sub 17
72. (Amended) In a method for automatically staining a biological sample, the biological sample being on a support medium and substantially covered by a first aqueous solution, and an evaporation-inhibiting liquid phase covering the first aqueous solution, the improvement comprising: